



News From Congresswoman Hilda L. Solis 32nd Congressional District of California

1725 Longworth HOB | Washington, DC 20515 -- 202.225.5464 -- 202.225.5467 f.

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Contacts: Edith Robles

(Solis) 202.225.5464

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Brian Farber (Bishop) 202.225.3826

INTERIOR BILL INCLUDES SOLIS-BISHOP AMENDMENT TO STOP UNETHICAL TESTING OF PESTICIDES ON HUMANS

WASHINGTON, D.C.-Today, Congresswoman Hilda L. Solis (CA-32), Ranking Democrat Member of the Committee on Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Environment and Hazardous Materials, and Congressman Timothy H. Bishop (NY-01) announced that their amendment to protect public health was included in Interior-Environment Appropriations bill for Fiscal Year 2006. The amendment would prohibit the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) from using funds in fiscal year 2006 to conduct or accept from industry studies that test pesticides on humans.

"This is an important first step to stop the unethical testing of pesticides on children or pregnant women. Congress has finally stepped up to the plate to protect public health, and against the lobbying efforts of the pesticide industry. I will remain vigilant until the EPA enacts regulations that enforce strict ethical standards to protect the interests of all working families across this nation," said Congresswoman Solis.

"This conference report will go a long way toward preventing the pesticide industry from using EPA rules to exploit the most vulnerable Americans," Bishop stated. "No pregnant woman or infant should ever be made a guinea pig for \$900 and a VCR." Congressman Tim Bishop represents the First District of New York. "I appreciate Ms. Solis' leadership on this issue and thank the Senate and House conferees for upholding our common sense amendment." The conference report language as it pertains to pesticides is as follows:

Sec. 201. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used by the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to accept, consider or rely on third-party intentional dosing human toxicity studies for pesticides, or to conduct intentional dosing human toxicity studies for pesticides until the Administrator issues a final rulemaking on this subject. The Administrator shall allow for a period of not less than 90 days for public comment on the Agency's proposed rule before issuing a final rule. Such rule shall not permit the use of pregnant women, infants or children as subjects; shall be consistent with the principles proposed in the 2004 report of the National Academy of Sciences on intentional human dosing and the principles of the Nuremberg Code with respect to human experimentation; and shall establish an independent Human Subjects Review Board. The final rule shall be issued no later than 180 days after enactment of this Act.

The amendment was also supported by a coalition of advocacy groups including the United Farm Workers, Dolores Huerta Foundation, Coalition on the Environment and Jewish Life, the Evangelical Lutheran Church, the Presbyterian Church and the United Methodist Church. It is also supported by more than 15 national environmental and public health organizations, including the Center for Health, Environment and Justice, the Environmental Working Group,

the Natural Resources Defense Council, the Southern Poverty Law Center and the New York Committee for Occupational Safety and Health.

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